Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

January 14, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the House H-232, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Steny Hoyer Majority Leader H-107, The Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leader Hoyer:

A healthy democracy is rooted in the principles of openness and transparency. In order to truly represent the interests and views of our constituents, we have an obligation to proceed with these ideals in mind. It is critical that Members and citizens alike have the full opportunity to review and discuss legislation before it is voted on. We believe that a 72 hour period for review is crucial before voting on a proposal as sweeping and impactful as health care reform legislation.

We appreciate and salute the great strides that have been made to ensure that the legislative process has remained open and transparent during the 111th Congress. The development of the health care reform legislation included hundreds of public hearings, testimony, and markups over many months. Your leadership has provided for historic transparency at every step on this landmark reform effort, including providing American public with access to the bill for 72 hours online when House passed bill in November. We ask that you follow the same standards of openness once the final language of the health care bill is agreed upon.

To effectively represent our constituents in Congress, we must have an appropriate amount of time to hear the full range of their concerns regarding pending legislation. Lawmakers and citizens deserve the chance to review and provide feedback on provisions added to new versions of the health care reform bill. A 72 hour period to review legislation in its final form would help to achieve this goal.

As you know, House rules already call for a review period before the consideration of legislation. Going forward, we support the House Leadership's effort to continue to uphold established standards of transparency by providing at least 72 hours for the review of the health care bill.

Thank you for your continued support to further include the American people in the legislative process.

Sincerely,

Rep. Scott Murphy Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Rep. Frank Kratovil, Jr. Member of Congress

Rep. John Hall Member of Congress

Rep. Thomas Perriello Member of Congress

Rep. Adam Smith Member of Congress

Rep. Eric Massa Member of Congress

Rep. Bill Owens Member of Congress Mahaf H. Mahank

Rep. Michael Michaud Member of Congress

Rep. Kathy Dahlkemper Member of Congress

Rep. Tim Walz Member of Congress

Hep. Wath Shuler Member of Congress

Pep. John Boccieri Member of Congress

Rep. Michael Arcuri Member of Congress